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REQUEST

FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Application No.	08/992,222
Filing Date	December 17, 1997
First Named Inventor	William A. Hobbs
Art Unit	2155
Examiner Name	Jean, Frantz B.
Attorney Docket Number	42390P4788

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR § 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 M Previously submitted Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 30, 2003 i. (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered). Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ii. RECEIVED Other iii. JAN 07 2004 Enclosed b. Amendment/Reply iv. Other Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) Technology Center 2|100 2. Miscellaneous Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) Other b. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. 3. Fees The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) and any additional claims fee(s)

Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and 1.17) iii. Other: (\$.00) Check in the amount of \$770.00 enclosed Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosd) WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 48,011 Name (Print/Type) Brent E. Vecchia 13reut 8 Date DEC. 30 2003 Signature CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Name (Print/Type) Krista Mathieson 12/30/03 Date Signature

Based on PTO/SB/30 (08-03) as modified by Blakely, Solokoff, Taylor & Zafman (wlr) 09/11/2003. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450